Message Text

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CONFIDENTIAL MADRID 4859

BELGRADE FOR USDEL CSCE

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: CSCE, SP

SUBJECT: CSCE--THE BELGRADE PREPARATORY MEETING

REF: (A) MADRID 2625; (B) STATE 146029

1. EMBOFF'S JUNE 27 CONVERSATION WITH AN MFA MEMBER OF SPANISH CSCE TEAM (LUIS DE LA TORRE) CONFIRMED THAT SPANISH DELEGATION UNDER AMBASSADOR PAN DE SORALUCE IS OPERATING WITH CONSIDERABLE INDEPENDENCE. (APPARENTLY THE SPANISH DELEGATION RELIES PRINCIPALLY ON POUCH SERVICE TO COMMUNICATE WITH MADRID AND THE FIRST POUCH CONTAINING REPORTS ON THE BELGRADE MEETING HAD YET TO ARRIVE.) DE LA TORRE CHARACTERIZED THE SPANISH AGENDA PROPOSAL AS A LASTMINUTE INSPIRATION OF PAN DE SORALUCE'S WHICH HAD NOT BEEN PREPARED IN MADRID PRIOR TO THE MEETING. HE CONFIRMED WITH A CERTAIN DEGREE OF CHAGRIN THAT SPAIN (FOR ALL ITS NEW DEMOCRATIC CREDENTIALS) CONTINUES IN THE CSCE CONTEXT TO BE A MEMBER OF THE "OUTSIDE FOUR."

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2. WITH RESPECT TO MEDITERRANEAN ASPECTS OF CSCE, DE AL TORRE REPORTED THAT THE MALTESE WERE EXPECTED TO FLOAT THIS WEEK AT BELGRADE A FULL-FLEDGED PROPOSAL FOR THE CREATION OF A MEDITERRANEAN SECURITY COMMISSION WHICH WOULD INCLUDE NON-CSCE SIGNATORY LITTORAL STATES. DE LA TORRE DID NOT OFFER AN ADVANCE VIEW OF THE SPANISH POSITION BEYOND SAYING THAT HE CERTAINLY DID NOT EXPECT THE MALTESE PROPOSAL TO PROSPER.WHILE HE ALSO DID

NOT INDICATE KNOWLEDGE OF ANY RECENT ALGERIAN APPROACH HERE REGARDING OBSERVER STATUS AT THE REVIEW CONFERENCE, HE DID AGAIN REHEARSE THE BASIC POSITION WORKED OUT IN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY WHICH WOULD SEEK A MIDDLE GROUND BETWEEN OBSERVER STATUS AND THE GENEVA PROCEDURES. WHAT THE SPANISH HAVE IN MIND IS GRANTING THE NONSIGNATORY MEDITERRANEAN STATUS THE RIGHT TO MULTIPLE APPEARANCE AT PLENARY SESSIONS TO PRESENT VIEWS ON EUROPEAN COOPERATION. HE DREW A CLEAR DISTINCTION BETWEEN COOPERATION AND SECURITY MATTERS, THE LATTER BEING TOO SENSITIVE FOR THIS TREATMENT.

3.WITH RESPECT TO CBM'S, DE LA TORRE SUGGESTED THAT THERE HAS STILL BEEN NO REAL PROGRESS HERE IN MADRID TOWARD ACHIEVING PAN DE SORALUCE'S HOPE THAT SPAIN WOULD ITSLEF IMPLEMENT BEFORE THE REVIEW CONFERENCE CONVENES ITS OWN CSCE INITIATIVE ON EXHCNAGE OF MILITARY VISITS (PARA 3, REFTEL A). HE CONFIRMED THAT SPAIN IS NOT PREPARING ANY NEW CBM PROPOSALS BUT DID EXPRESS INTEREST IN WHAT THE "NEW NINE," THE EC OR NATO MIGHT BE PLANNING. HE INDICATED THAT THE SOVIET CBM NOTIFICATION OF JULY MANEUVERS CODE-NAMED "CARPATHIANS" (REF B), HAD NOT BEEN MADE IN MADRID.

4. ON THE MAJOR POINT OF THE PRECISE NATURE OF THE AGENDA FOR THE REVIEW CONFERENCE, DE LA TORRE'S COMMENTS SUGGESTED THAT THE SPANISH DELEGATION IS OPERATING WITHOUT SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS FROM MADRID. HOWEVER, HE SEEMED INTERESTED IN PURSUING CONFIDENTIAL.

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THE POSSIBILITIES FOR A COMPROMISE WHICH WOULD STILL PROVIDE FOR ADEQUATE REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION. HE (TOGETHER WITH OTHER SPANISH OFFICIALS WORKING ON CSCE) IS VERY MUCH AWARE OF U.S. CONCERNS IN THIS RESPECT. DE LA TORRE ADDED IN THIS CONTEXT THAT THE CSCE STRUCTURE IS A FRAGILE ONE WHICH WOULD NOT EASILY WITHSTAND SHARP CONFRONTATION.

- 5. DE LA TORRE WILL JOIN THE SPANISH DELEGATION AT BELGRADE ON ABOUT JULY 5 OR 6.
- 6. SPANISH PRESS ATTENTION TO THE PRELIMINARY MEETING HAS THUS FAR BEEN MODEST. STABLER

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